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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY

Morocco

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SUBJECT

Emergence of Young Nationalist Group in the Istiqlal Party

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Reports have been received which indicate that a strong and extremist segment of the Istiqlal (Nationalist) Party has recently been formed in Fez, French Morocco.^{1,2} While nothing definite is known about it, rumor has it linked to the scattered incidents of reprisal against the French which seemed to have begun with the unsuccessful attempt to derail the Casablanca-Marrakech train in January 1953, and have continued but with greater intensity since the deposition of the Sultan in August. The group is supposedly made up of the younger elements of the Istiqlal but its direction from the Party officials is believed to be limited because of the policy of the older group to work for Moroccan independence by legal methods which, in the opinion of the younger group, has so far proved to be a complete failure.

1. ☐ Comment: The group is believed to be unknown to the French.
2. ☐ Comment: In May of 1953, a rumor appeared in Casablanca of the existence of a group within the Istiqlal modelled after the "Young Turk" movement but the details of organization and membership so far have been unavailable.

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